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Economic and Social Council

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Organizational session for 2008
14 January, 5-8 February and 29-30 April 2008
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments.

Annotations

1. Election of the Bureau

Rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council provides that, each year at the commencement of its first meeting, the Council shall elect a President and four Vice-Presidents from among the representatives of its members. The membership of the Council in 2008 is given in the annex below. According to the equitable geographical rotation of the office of President among the regional groups, the President for 2008 should be the representative of a member of the Latin American and Caribbean States group. The four Vice-Presidents of the Council shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution from the regional groups, excluding that to which the President belongs.

The President and Vice-Presidents shall constitute the Bureau. The Council, upon the recommendation of the President, shall decide on the special responsibilities of each of the Vice-Presidents.

Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77, a meeting of the Council will be held on 14 January 2008 for the election of the Bureau.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Council provides that, at the beginning of each session, after the election of the Bureau when required under rule 18, the Council shall adopt the agenda for the session.

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The present provisional agenda has been prepared in conformity with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/162 and of other relevant legislative decisions, including, in particular, the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 61/16.

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions

In its decision 2007/241, the Council decided to defer consideration of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions to a later stage.

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions (E/2007/22)

Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies: draft annex relating to the World Tourism Organization

In its decision 2007/247, the Council decided to further defer its consideration of the draft annex to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies relating to the World Tourism Organization to its substantive session of 2008, with the proviso that the item could be taken up earlier and a decision adopted without any debate.

Documentation

Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies: draft annex relating to the World Tourism Organization (E/2006/70)

Application of an intergovernmental organization for observer status with the Council

In its decision 2007/260, the Council decided to postpone further consideration of the application of intergovernmental organization International Emergency Management Organization for observer status with the Council to a later date.

Documentation

Application of an intergovernmental organization, the International Emergency Management Organization, for observer status with the Economic and Social Council (E/2006/87)

3. Basic programme of work of the Council

In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Council shall draw up, at its organizational session, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, its basic programme of work for the year.

The Council will have before it the proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 2008 and 2009 (E/2008/1) prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly.

The Council's attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 52/12 B, by which the Assembly decided to create a humanitarian affairs segment of the Council. In

accordance with Council decision 1999/208, the Council, at its organizational session, may wish to select a theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 2008.

Pursuant to Council decision 1982/174 on the rationalization of the work of the Council, the Council decided to identify, at its annual organizational session, a subject relating to interregional cooperation, of common interest to all regions, for detailed consideration under the agenda item on regional cooperation, and to request the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to submit their joint recommendations in that regard to the Council at its annual organizational session.

Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Council, the President, prior to the organizational session, and with the cooperation of the other members of the Bureau, will arrange for consultations with members of the Council on the draft programme of work and provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary-General and make proposals thereon for consideration by the Council.

Pursuant to Council decision 2006/206 on adapting the work of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the Council will convene consultations of the Council, on an "as available" basis, to adapt its organization of work, agenda and current methods of work in pursuance of paragraphs 155 and 156 of the World Summit Outcome and the related provisions of General Assembly resolution 61/16.

Documentation

Proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 2008 and 2009 (E/2008/1)

4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments

The Council will hold elections to fill vacancies in its subsidiary bodies.

Documentation

Addendum to the provisional agenda of the organizational session for 2008 (E/2008/2/Add.1)[1]

[1] To be issued.

Annex

Members of the Economic and Social Council for 2007

	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	2009
Angola	2008
Austria	2008
Barbados	2009
Belarus	2009
Benin	2008
Bolivia	2009
Brazil	2010
Cameroon	2010
Canada	2009
Cape Verde	2009
China	2010
Congo	2010
Cuba	2008
Czech Republic	2008
El Salvador	2009
France	2008
Greece	2008
Guinea-Bissau	2008
Guyana	2008
Haiti	2008
Iceland	2010
Indonesia	2009
Iraq	2009
Japan	2008
Kazakhstan	2009
Liechtenstein	2008
Luxembourg	2009
Madagascar	2008
Malawi	2009
Malaysia	2010
Mauritania	2008
Moldova	2010
Mozambique	2010
Netherlands	2009
New Zealand	2010
Niger	2010

	Term expires on 31 December
Pakistan	2010
Paraguay	2008
Philippines	2009
Poland	2010
Portugal	2008
Republic of Korea	2010
Romania	2009
Russian Federation	2010
Saint Lucia	2010
Saudi Arabia	2008
Somalia	2009
Sri Lanka	2008
Sudan	2009
Sweden	2010
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2010
United States of America	2009
Uruguay	2009